

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 2 Kings Chapters 20-21 5/11-12/2026

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada)

THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM PACIFIC DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Time (US and Canada).

TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Review: 2 KINGS – Chapter 18 – Hezekiah Reigns in Judah; Sennacherib Boasts Against the LORD. Chapter 19 - Isaiah Assures Deliverance; Sennacherib’s Threat and Hezekiah’s Prayer; The Word of the LORD Concerning Sennacherib; Sennacherib’s Defeat and Death.

THIS WEEK: 2 KINGS – Chapter 20 – Hezekiah’s Life Extended – (vs. 1-11); The Babylonian Envoys – (vs. 12-19); Death of Hezekiah – (vs. 20-21). Chapter 21 – Manasseh Reigns in Judah - (vs. 1-18); Amon’s Reign and Death – (vs. 19-26).

Hezekiah's Illness and Recovery

2Ki 20:1 In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, "Thus says the LORD: 'Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live.' "

- It seems that he had some kind of a severe boil. It was serious enough to put him in bed. There was much poison in his system that he dying.
- Rather than a prophecy, it seems that this was a warning from the LORD to Hezekiah. “Get things right Hezekiah. You are going to die and not live.” There is the importance of setting our house in order. None of us really expect to die. We have all put off things that we know that we should do, that we intend to do someday. But we think that we have forever. Thus, we often put off important things. Sometimes people even put off their relationship with God. How foolish, and how tragic.
- **How can I personalize this command from the LORD? “Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live!” It is one thing to consider Hezekiah’s receiving this message. It is entirely**

different to think about receiving this message for myself! How would it impact and change my priorities!

2Ki 20:2-3 Then he turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the LORD, saying, [3] "Remember now, O LORD, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a loyal heart, and have done what was good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.

- Hezekiah is on a sick bed and has all these attendants in the room. The first thing when he hears this news is that he wants to do is to process it with the LORD, just like us. He wants to pray, but he has all these people around him. He wants to be able to concentrate on the LORD in prayer. He wants to have some kind of privacy in talking to the LORD about all of this. The best thing that worked for him was just to turn, look at the wall, not thinking about anybody else and begin to pray to the LORD.
- **It is tragic that so often prayer is our last resort and not the first!** "When everything else fails, pray." But it was his first resort. If you make prayer your first resort, you usually do not get to the last resort. "Oh, what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer." Hezekiah was the kind of guy, when anything came up, he prayed about it. That is what made him such a successful king.
- **That was true. I have walked with You with a loyal heart.** I have obeyed Your word. I have been loyal to You, and not just Your word, but a relationship with You. *I have done what was good in Your sight.* And Hezekiah *wept bitterly* related to this news. Obviously, he is praying and asking the LORD for healing and for a longer life. He does not want to die. He reminds the LORD of His faithfulness and how devoted he has been. All of that was true.

2Ki 20:4 And it happened, before Isaiah had gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

- **From Isaiah chapter 38 it would seem that Hezekiah spent the night in prayer.** He mentions some interesting aspects to his prayer. (*Isa 38:13-14*) *I have considered until morning—Like a lion, So He breaks all my bones; From day until night You make an end of me. [14] Like a crane or a swallow, so I chattered; I mourned like a dove; That is a funny way to pray. My eyes fail from looking upward. O LORD, I am oppressed; Undertake for me!*
- **If you really want to get into Isaiah's (Hezekiah's) prayer, you can look at it.** It could be that Isaiah just stood by him for a while, and as he turned to leave, before he got out of the outer court. While he was still in the courtyard, the LORD spoke to him.

2Ki 20:5 "Return (Isaiah) and tell Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of David your father: "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD.

- **Return and tell Hezekiah, the leader of My people.** This is the basis of Hezekiah's prayer. Let me continue to lead Your people.
- *I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears, and surely, I will heal you.* Hezekiah prayed; he wept. It can be said of every one of you who have cried out unto the Lord, in a time of distress, some of you weeping before God over the situations and the problems that you face. The Lord hears your prayer; the Lord sees your tears. *Surely I will heal you!*
- **On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD.** This reveals something else in terms of what God knows about Hezekiah's heart. So here he is. He is in a sick bed, apart from God's intervention. God knew that the first thing that Hezekiah would want to do if he was healed from his disease, the thing that he longed for most in life because of his illness, was the inability to go to church. to be able to go to the temple!
- **God gives him this word here now that He is going to heal you.** The healing is going to be so supernaturally swift that within three days you will be off this deathbed, and you will be able to worship Me in the temple as is the desire of your heart.
- **What a great question for me. How strong is my desire to join with the body of Christ and worship and praise my Lord? If I were on my sick bed and near death, would I want, more than anything else to be healed in order to go to church and worship? How casual am I with respect to this great opportunity that He has given me? Is my participation simply one as a spectator wanting to see what I can get out of it? Or am I an active, joyful, participant offering my praise, worship, and prayers of thanksgiving to Him? Not primarily of what I can get out of it, but what can I offer to Him and to others around me?**

2Ki 20:6 *And I will add to your days fifteen years. I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake, and for the sake of My servant David."*

- *I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, for My own reputation, which was a concern of Hezekiah, and for the sake of My servant David.* The Assyrians made two more incursions during Hezekiah's life, but they never came to Jerusalem. The LORD delivered him out of the hands of the Assyrians. So apparently, this was all going on before the Assyrian army was wiped out.
- *I will defend this city for my own sake and for the sake of my servant David.* So why does the LORD say this to Hezekiah, except that Hezekiah's motive in his prayer was not purely selfish? God, listen, how can You kill me? Here I am, this righteous person and I have walked with You. Are You going to take me home now?
- **Hezekiah is not trying to bargain with the LORD.** What he is doing here, the LORD's response to him makes it clear, is that Hezekiah is concerned for the future of Judah. LORD, we are being attacked. Sennacherib is at our door. He is threatening. If Judah falls, then what is going to happen to Your name, Your reputation, and Your glory as a result of that fall?
- **Surely, as Hezekiah had begun many spiritual reformations within the land,** there was the idea that he wanted to continue those things. He is saying, can You let me continue to do these godly, spiritually healthy things in the history of Judah; so that they are not jeopardized at my death? It is not pure selfishness. He is not bargaining there. He just wants to continue what God had called him to do.
- **Now it is interesting to notice that once again,** we have here in the Scriptures, a very godly man who is terminally ill. The LORD is going to heal him, but godly people do get sick!

2Ki 20:7 *Then Isaiah said, "Take a lump of figs." So they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered.*

- **They took a lump of figs, smashed them up as a dressing** and then put them inside of a porous cloth, applying them then to the wound and he recovered. The LORD uses a medicinal thing here to bring forth the healing. Sometimes people feel bad, thinking that they do not have enough faith because, but here you have a beautiful situation where medicine is applied. God honors that. He heals Hezekiah of this infection.
- **Paul the apostle, writing to young Timothy,** who was having stomach problems, because of the various polluted water systems, probably at the suggestion of Luke, who was Paul's physician. *(1Ti 5:23) No longer drink only water but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.*

2Ki 20:8 *And Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "What is the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up to the house of the LORD the third day?"*

- **Hezekiah is excited about getting back to church.** It is interesting that when people get into a physical illness in their older age are unable to get out and about, sometimes not even able to get out of bed. They tell you that if they could muster their strength for one more thing to do in their life, it would be able for them to come into a church, sit among God's people in the ministry of God's Holy Spirit, worship the Lord, study the word of God together.
- **None of us here in the room have to wait** until our deathbed to appreciate the wonder of two or more gathering together in the name of the LORD, experiencing what uniquely happens in an environment like this, which does not happen anywhere else in the world for all of its money, entertainment, and ingenuity. It is beautiful and he is not the last one to have felt it. Hezekiah is excited about this opportunity and asks for a sign that this is going to happen. The LORD is not displeased, and so He gives a sign.

2Ki 20:9 *Then Isaiah said, "This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing which He has spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees or go backward ten degrees?"*

- **That is the sundial.** "Shall the shadow on the sundial go forward, or go backward ten degrees?"

2Ki 20:10 *And Hezekiah answered, "It is an easy thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees; no, but let the shadow go backward ten degrees."*

- **If it went forward, it would not mean much; but if it went backwards,** it would be quite a sign!

2Ki 20:11 *So Isaiah the prophet cried out to the LORD, and He brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down on the sundial of Ahaz.*

- **The LORD said that He would move the shadow back on the sundial.** It could be just a localized miracle. He did not say He was going to change all of creation that He had set in the course. He could do the other thing; I have no doubt about it. It is very easy for the Creator to do that with His creation. Basically, He just moved that shadow back within the sight of Hezekiah as symbol that he was turning back the clock on Hezekiah's life and giving him more time to live. A supernatural miracle, nonetheless. This wonderful miracle was given to confirm the faith of Hezekiah. Remember the long day of Joshua (*Jos 10:13*) So the sun stood

still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.

Hezekiah and the Babylonian Envoys

2Ki 20:12 *At that time Berodach-Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that Hezekiah had been sick.*

- **These envoys came from Babylon.** Now at this time, Babylon was just a little province, being harassed by Assyria. In fact, it was sort of under the control of Assyria. This Baladan had made about three abortive attempts to revolt against Assyria. In sending them to Hezekiah, the probable purpose was to form an alliance against Assyria because Assyria was the world power and most of the nations had been subdued by it.
- **Assyria was too strong for any single nation to overthrow,** and he no doubt, was looking for an alliance with Hezekiah. He had heard of the strength of the kingdom under Hezekiah, how Judah had become so strong, and how actually, a hundred and eighty-five Assyrian soldiers were wiped out, when they came against Jerusalem in the siege. He was looking, no doubt, for a sort of military alliance, that together they might join against Assyria. So, hearing that Hezekiah was sick, he sends a present and the envoy visited him.

2Ki 20:13 *And Hezekiah was attentive to them, and showed them all the house of his treasures—the silver and gold, the spices and precious ointment, and all his armory—all that was found among his treasures. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them.*

- **Hezekiah was very happy to receive the attention.** He was attentive to them when they came, showing them all and notice that word “all,” all the house of his treasures, showed him all of the silver and the gold in the empire, the spices, the precious ointment, showed him all his armory. Hezekiah showed them all of the physical material wealth of the nation and then showed them the complete military. No king in their right mind in a fallen world shows potential enemies all their wealth and the extent of their military. It was not a wise thing to do! He may have thought they wanted an ally against Assyria, so I will show them what we could bring to the table. But he makes a great mistake in doing this! *There was nothing in his house, palace, or in all of his dominion, everything under his reign, that Hezekiah did not show them.*

2Ki 20:14 *Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, "What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?" So Hezekiah said, "They came from a far country, from Babylon."*

- **Isaiah asked Hezekiah,** “*What did these men say, and where did they come from to you?*” Hezekiah said, “*Oh, they came from a far country.*” I mean, there will not be any problem for us. *They came from Babylon.* In reality they are going to be the next world-ruling empire, and now you are on their menu.

2Ki 20:15 *And he said, "What have they seen in your house?" So Hezekiah answered, "They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them."*

- **2 Chronicles chapter 32, giving us more detail, tells us** that after Hezekiah experienced this victory over the Assyrians; after he had been healed, and enjoyed considerable prosperity from the LORD, his heart got lifted up in pride. The LORD then withdrew from him in order to test him, to know all that was in Hezekiah's heart. The answer, unfortunately, was pride. Notice Hezekiah's answer, “*They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them!*”
- **This is his attitude, this is his pride, and the problem with all of it** is that any glory that we receive or that we accept as glory, is the LORD's glory that He does not receive. That is a serious mistake. The Bible says (*Isa 42:8a*) *I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another*. Here Hezekiah makes that mistake, giving the wrong impression that the explanation for all of these blessings in his life is something other than the grace of God!
- **But everything we have comes from the LORD.** So, they come in and he shows them all of his wealth and military strength, which then becomes the reason for their greatness! Just look at all of our wealth, look at all, look at our military, when he knows for a fact that **the real source of greatness** in Judah was **their relationship with God, their repentance and turning back to God;** the reforms that Hezekiah had brought in.
- **When Hezekiah meets them in this way, showing them all his greatness,** he is communicating to them that **this is the source** of our greatness. He would have been much better to have just sat down with them, not showing them a single thing, and said, do you want to know about the greatness of Judah? It is **because of the God that we serve**, because of His greatness, of His grace, His faithfulness. Then they would have left with a right understanding of the greatness of Judah and would have likely turned to God.
- **But he does not do that. So, he fumbles here.** It is an area of pride, where we are all prone to fumble, to begin to think in our mind, I have this, I have that on the basis of my efforts, my work! When it is all God, it is

all God in our lives. This is such a valuable lesson! It is comforting to see that even the best kings, David, Hezekiah and Josiah, were not perfect! That gives me comfort and hope!

- ***It is so easy to take our God given gifts and feel we are somehow special that we have such gifts that maybe others do not have. Do you ever boast, believe, or act like that the gifts that God has given you are your own and take credit for them? Have you learned to be content with what the God has given you? What great questions for me!***

2Ki 20:16-17 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD: [17] 'Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left,' says the LORD.

- Here is the first prophetic indication that Babylon would be the conqueror of the southern kingdom, of Judah. Assyria had already conquered the northern kingdom. But Isaiah is speaking from the LORD. He is prophesying. It will not be Assyria that conquers Judah, it will be Babylon!
- **Isaiah will later tell of Babylon, which at this time was just a little provincial kingdom, of Babylon conquering Judah,** how that Babylon will be conquered by Medo-Persia, which were two smaller provinces inconsequential at that time. He will tell exactly how Medo-Persia will conquer Babylon, even naming the king! Two hundred and fifty years before Cyrus was born! So that when Isaiah says this happens later, you will know that God was the one who was speaking; that He knew what He was talking about!
- **Isaiah is now showing that Babylon is going to be the one that is going to carry off the treasures of Judah.** Did it happen? Oh, it most certainly did, just as he predicted!

2Ki 20:18 'And they shall take away some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.' "

- **Wait a minute, Hezekiah does not have any sons yet. How interesting.** He is sort of predicting, "*some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget.*"
- **Jehoiakim, Zedekiah, Daniel, all of these were descendants of Hezekiah, who were carried away,** and became *eunuchs* (servant princes; not necessarily castrated) there in the palace of the king of Babylon. The prophecy of Daniel has that whole context: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, commonly known as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, were the princes that were taken, when Nebuchadnezzar took the captives at his first captivity of Jerusalem. They were groomed to be eunuchs, there in the palace of the king.

2Ki 20:19 So Hezekiah said to Isaiah, "The word of the LORD which you have spoken is good!" For he said, "Will there not be peace and truth at least in my days?"

- **Hezekiah speaks this thing concerning what the LORD is going to do here.** From (2Ch 32:25-26) *But Hezekiah did not repay according to the favor shown him, for his heart was lifted up; therefore, wrath was looming over him and over Judah and Jerusalem. [26] Then Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD did not come upon them in the days of Hezekiah.*
- **Hezekiah repented of his pride, we know, from 2 Chronicles.** He is saying that it is not looking and saying, oh, well, great, bring it on, but at least it is not going to happen as long as I am alive. That is not where he is coming from. He is saying, "You know, What the LORD is prescribing here is, it is good. It is just. I will not fight against it. I will not complain about it." He humbly accepted the fact that God's judgment would come upon the nation and that it would not be a reflection on God's goodness when it did come, but because of the nation's sin! He was just grateful as any of us would be, that there *would be peace and truth at least in my days.* That is what is behind his explanation here.

2Ki 20:20 Now the rest of the acts of Hezekiah—all his might, and how he made a pool and a tunnel and brought water into the city—are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

- That would be "Hezekiah's tunnel, bringing water into the city from the spring of Gihon, outside Jerusalem, to the pool of Siloam within the city. That is a tunnel under mount Ophel, 1,710 feet long, carved out of solid rock, which brings the waters of the spring of Gihon to within the city walls to this big pool. He made the pool in Siloam. It is a beautiful engineering feat by the men, as they started at both directions, tunneling through, meeting somewhere in the middle.

2Ki 20:21 So Hezekiah rested with his fathers. Then Manasseh his son reigned in his place.

Manasseh Reigns in Judah

2Ki 21:1 Manasseh was twelve years old (three years after Hezekiah's prayer) when he became king, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Hephzibah.

- Which means that he was born three years after Hezekiah's prayer, that God would spare his life. Hezekiah reigns 55 years, which was longer than any of the kings of Israel, and he is going to completely waste it. He is just a monster. He is just a terrible human being. And he is going to be king for 55 years.
- Do you think it was wrong for Hezekiah to have been given fifteen more years of life? (*Eze 18:20*) *The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.*

2Ki 21:2 *And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel.*

- We are told the details of the evil of his reign, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out. When God cast out the nations before the children of Israel, in order to give the land of Canaan to them, He brings all of those practices back into the land. It is like there was no conquest of the land. It is just terrible, the wickedness that He brings into the nation. He was the exact opposite of his father. Every evil thing that Hezekiah tore down, Manasseh rebuilds. Everything good that that Hezekiah built up, Manasseh comes in and tears it down. These are negatives of one another.

2Ki 21:3-4 *For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; he raised up altars for Baal, and made a wooden image, as Ahab king of Israel had done; and he worshiped all the host of heaven and served them (worship of horoscopes, astrology). [4] He also built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name."*

- He also built altars. in the house of the LORD. This is a man who is deliberately evil. He is blasphemously evil. He could take and bring in all of his idolatry, all of his wickedness and say, all right, but I am not going to cross the line and do this stuff at the temple. I will fill in the land, but I will not cross the line of desecrating the temple. He does not have any kind of interior conscience or barrier at all. He goes right into the area of the temple. He builds these altars in the place where the LORD had said, in Jerusalem, I will put My name.

2Ki 21:5-6 *And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the LORD. [6] Also he made his son pass through the fire, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, and consulted spiritists and mediums. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.*

- He also made his sons (Chronicles account) pass through the fire. He offered one of his sons to the god of Molech by rolling the baby down into the fire. What kind of a God demands you to do that to your child? What are you thinking? It is demonic. He practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, consulted spiritists and mediums, filling the land with the occult. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD to provoke Him to anger. And then notice, you think, oh my, how could it get worse?

2Ki 21:7 *He even set a carved image of Asherah (Or of Venus, a nude image designed to arouse the sexual passions) that he had made, in the house of which the LORD had said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever; (In this very place, he put this idol, this image, of this female sex goddess!)*

- It gets worse. Notice that he even set a carved obscene image of Asherah, which he had made in the house of the LORD, going right into the holy area of the temple!
- They could never completely recover from the damage that was done by Manasseh, though under Josiah, his grandson, there was a spiritual reform. He sealed the fate of the kingdom of Judah.
- Manasseh cast the spiritual die, that they could not break. The things that his father had undone, he did. The high places he tore down, Manasseh built. The images his father destroyed, Manasseh created new ones.

2Ki 21:8 *and I will not make the feet of Israel wander anymore from the land which I gave their fathers—only if they are careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the law that My servant Moses commanded them."*

- These promises God said, "My face will be here forever, and I'll not move them out of the land, if (Conditional promise), they will observe to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all of the law that my servant Moses commanded them.

2Ki 21:9 *But they paid no attention, and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD had destroyed before the children of Israel.*

- They were worse than those nations that God had destroyed before them! Manasseh took even lower!

Manasseh's Idolatry Denounced

2Ki 21:10 *And the LORD spoke by His servants the prophets, saying,*

• The LORD warned them of a coming judgment. (Isaiah was one of the prophets ministering at that time.) *2Ki 21:11-12 "Because Manasseh king of Judah has done these abominations (he has acted more wickedly than all the Amorites who were before him, and has also made Judah sin with his idols), [12] therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Behold, I am bringing such calamity upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, both his ears will tingle.*

- Therefore, thus says the LORD. So, these prophets are warning Manasseh concerning the judgment to come. There was a real persecution meted out against God's people in the Old Testament. Tradition holds that it was Manasseh, who silenced the prophetic voice of Isaiah by having him sawn in half!
- It will bring pain to your ears when you hear what I am going to do. The suffering, the pain, the agony that these people are going to go through!

2Ki 21:13 And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab; I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down.

• God is no respecter of person. God says, "I judged Samaria for these things, I am going to judge Judah." *2Ki 21:14-16 So I will forsake the remnant of My inheritance and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become victims of plunder to all their enemies, [15] because they have done evil in My sight, and have provoked Me to anger since the day their fathers came out of Egypt, even to this day.' [16] Moreover Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides his sin by which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the LORD.*

- Manasseh shed very much innocent blood. He just started killing godly people. This was state-sponsored terrorism in the ancient world. He killed anybody that was standing up to him righteously on the basis of the word of God, he killed to such a degree that *he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another with much innocent blood!*
- Manasseh did repent! His repentance is not mentioned at all the book of Kings, but it is thoroughly given to us in 2 Chronicles – Manasseh's Repentance – (2Ch 33:10-13) *And the LORD spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they would not listen. [11] Therefore the LORD brought upon them the captains of the army of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh with hooks, bound him with bronze fetters, and carried him off to Babylon. [12] Now when he was in affliction, he implored the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, [13] and prayed to Him; and He received his entreaty, heard his supplication, and brought him back to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD was God.*
- What an example of God's grace, mercy and forgiveness!
- **How does God's receiving Manasseh's repentance and His giving him forgiveness impact my faith in God? Just to think that the worst king in Israel as well as such a sinner as I am can be saved, is such a beautifully wonderful, powerful, example of His grace!**

2Ki 21:17-18 Now the rest of the acts of Manasseh—all that he did, and the sin that he committed—are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? [18] So Manasseh rested with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza. Then his son Amon reigned in his place.

- Now Amon was just as bad as his dad.

Amon Reigns in Judah

2Ki 21:19-23 Amon was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. [20] And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, as his father Manasseh had done (earlier in his life). [21] So he walked in all the ways that his father had walked; and he served the idols that his father had served, and worshiped them. [22] He forsook the LORD God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of the LORD. [23] Then the servants of Amon conspired against him, and killed the king in his own house.

- After reigning two years, Amon was killed by his own servants in his own house. Josiah, his son was eight years old at this point in time. Evidently his father was killed in front of him, slaughtered right in his own house. Imagine the kind of impression that that would put on the mind and the heart of an eight-year-old!

2Ki 21:24 But the people of the land executed all those who had conspired against King Amon. Then the people of the land made his son Josiah king in his place.

- In all of their idolatry, all of the things they were doing wrong, they know it is not right to kill the king. So, they killed the men that killed him. *And the people of the land made Josiah, his son, king in his place.*

2Ki 21:25-26 Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? [26] And he was buried in his tomb in the garden of Uzza. Then Josiah his son reigned in his place.

- **Now Josiah was a good king. What a tremendous contrast here!** Hezekiah, a good king. His father, Ahaz, an evil king. Manasseh was a horrible king. Amon, a horrible king, but he only lasted two years. Now, Josiah comes to the throne. He is a good king! Because of him, the nation is spared for a while. But after his death, it all goes downhill! Down and out! We will follow the progression, as we continue through the book of *2 Kings*.
- **So much for us to learn! You have heard that history repeats itself.** In a sense that is true, because though times have changed, man's heart has not!

SUMMARY:

- **2Ki 20:1 How can I personalize this command from the LORD? "Set your house in order, for you shall die, and not live!"** It is one thing to consider Hezekiah's receiving this message. It is entirely different to think about receiving this message for myself! How would it impact and change my priorities!
- **2Ki 20:5 What a great question for me. How strong is my desire to join** with the body of Christ and worship and praise my Lord? If I were on my sick bed and near death, would I want, more than anything else to be healed in order to go to church and worship? How casual am I with respect to this great opportunity that He has given me? Is my participation simply one as a spectator wanting to see what I can get out of it? Or am I an active, joyful, participant offering my praise, worship, and prayers of thanksgiving to Him? Not primarily of what I can get out of it, but what can I offer to Him and to others around me?
- **2Ki 20:15 It is so easy to take our God given gifts and feel we are somehow special** that we have such gifts that maybe others do not have. Do you ever boast, believe, or act like that the gifts that God has given you are your own and take credit for them? Have you learned to be content with what the God has given you? What great questions for me!
- **2Ki 21:16 How does God's receiving Manasseh's repentance and His giving him forgiveness** impact my faith in God? Just to think that the worst king in Israel as well as such a sinner as I am can be saved, is such a beautifully wonderful, powerful example of His grace!

THE LOVE OF GOD - Phelps, Penrod & Gardner (4:19/4:22)

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell; the guilty pair bowed down with care, God gave His Son to win, His erring child, He reconciled and pardoned from his sins

Refrain: O love of God How rich and pure! How measureless and strong, it shall forever more endure the saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, and were the Skies of parchment made. were every stone on earth a quill and every man a scribe by trade. to write the love of God above, would drain the ocean dry, nor could a scroll contain the whole. though stretched from sky to sky

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study 2 Kings, Chapters 22-23

A REMINDER! It is time to vote! As stewards of this great opportunity in our Republic of the USA, may we all be sure and **let our voice be heard and vote!**

I filled out my ballot with the help of this site. Just looked through the sites online and found this **conservative "Reform California" voter guide**, from Carl DeMaio (member of the Ca State Assembly). It is for Orange County. **Search for a voter guide for your county** to see **local input**. May we **pray and vote as the LORD leads**.

<https://www.reformcalifornia.org/voter-guides/orange-county>

Speaker Mike Johnson's comments at last week's National Day of Prayer:

https://www.google.com/search?q=latest+speaker+mike+johnson&oq=latest+speaker+mike+johnson&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOdIBCDcwNzFqMGo0qAIAAsAIB&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:b6f3e85a,vid:bCIfuyFOMak,st:270